

NOTES

NOTES ON THREE SPECIES OF *OPHIOGLOSSUM* FROM NORTH CAROLINA—While making a study of over 4200 sheets of *Ophioglossum* from 114 different herbaria, the senior author became aware that the only *Ophioglossum* common to North Carolina was *O. vulgatum* L. var. *pycnostichum* Fern. Specimens of this fern were examined from 32 counties. The only other species from the state was *O. crotalophoroides* Walter, and it was known only from a collection made on Dec. 9, 1956 on the lawn of Duke University Marine Station in Carteret County. Since other species of *Ophioglossum* are much more common than the number of sheets in herbaria indicate, it seemed probable that others could also occur in the Coastal Plains Province of North Carolina. A field trip was made in March, 1976 to look for these ferns in North Carolina.

On March 4, 1976, Thomas collected specimens of *O. nudicaule* var. *tenerum* from Brunswick County. The locality is: Bennett's Cemetery just west of Singletree Creek, 1.5 miles west of U.S. 17 near Hickman Cross-roads (Thomas 48453). It is common at this site with *O. crotalophoroides* in sandy soil. No other collections of this fern from North Carolina were made.

Later, the same afternoon, Thomas collected *O. petiolatum* new to North Carolina. The locality is: Lawn of Letties Grove Pentecostal Free-Will Baptist Church, south of U.S. 17 east of Shalotte, Brunswick County (Thomas 48454). Thomas and Marx spent March 6-7, 1978 searching for *Ophioglossum* in eastern North Carolina. We found *O. petiolatum* from Craven (Thomas and Marx 48476), Carteret (48489), Beaufort (48502), Washington (48509), and Dare (48524) counties.

Although *Ophioglossum crotalophoroides* had been known only from one county, the authors found it to be abundant in sandy, grassy areas such as cemeteries and school lawns. We made collections from Brunswick (48452), Craven (48475), Carteret (48482), Beaufort (48506), Pamlico (48503), Martin (48506), Washington (48512), Hyde (48516), and Dare (48525) counties.

We searched for *O. crotalophoroides* in southeasternmost Virginia with no success. We were hampered by a cold, rainy, and windy day that made crawling on the ground very miserable and seeing small plants almost a possibility. No doubt *O. crotalophoroides* and *O. petiolatum* will eventually be found in the Coastal Plain area of Virginia. R. Dale Thomas, Biology Department, Northeast Louisiana University, Monroe, LA 71209 and Paul S. Marx, Botany Department, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, 27514.